May 26
1927

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"Counsel with the Lord in all thy doings, and he will direct thee for good; yea, when thou liest down at night lie down unto the Lord, that he may watch over you in your sleep; and when thou risest in the morning let thy heart be full of thanks unto God; and if ye do these things, ye shall be lifted up at the last day." BOOK OF MORMON, ALMA 37: 37.

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SPEAK THE TRUTH*

PRESIDENT ANTHONY W. IVINS

MY HEART is full of gratitude and praise to the Lord, my brethren and sisters, as I stand before this vast congregation and observe what President Nibley just called my attention to, that it is made up largely of men. As I think of it, it would appear almost unnecessary that I express the thoughts which I desired to present to you.

I shall read first from the words of the Prophet Zechariah, as I wish to make his words the basis of the brief remarks that I expect to make.

These are the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbour; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates: And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbour; and love no false oath: for all these are things that I hate, saith the Lord. (Zechariah 8: 16-17).

MISUNDERSTOOD AND RIDICULED

It is now nearly one hundred years since the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ was effected. Three years hence and a century will have elapsed since that event occurred. From the time of its organization the Church and those who make up its membership have been misunderstood and misrepresented.

The Church has been referred to as an organization founded upon a pernicious superstition and delusion, and the man who

*Address delivered at the opening session of the Ninety-seventh Annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, April 3, 1927.

was chosen to be the instrument in the hands of the Lord in the opening of the present gospel dispensation and organization of the Church as either a wilful imposter or a deluded incompetent. Those who have identified themselves with the Church and make up its membership have been accused of establishing a new form of religion, founded upon Mosaic law, and as following the creed of Islam rather than the gospel plan as it was taught by the Redeemer of the world. They have been ridiculed, abused and persecuted, in some instances unto death.

IGNORANCE AND DECEPTION STILL THRIVE

At this period in the history of the Church, after its doctrines have been before the world for a century, and its history and accomplishments are, or should be, well understood, it would be supposed that these criticisms and misrepresentations would have ceased; and it is obvious that where they are resorted to it is the result of either inexcusable ignorance or wilful desire to deceive those who are not well informed as to the truth, which in either case would be wrong, because no one is justified in sitting in judgment upon another where the merits of the case are not understood; and wilfully to misrepresent the truth is a very grave offense.

That the campaign of misrepresentation, ridicule and abuse, the methods to which people always resort when reason and argument fail, is still being vigorously prosecuted is evidenced by the following, to which I desire to call your attention. These clippings from which I am about to read are only a few from the many which I have collected during the past year.

GROSS MISSTATEMENTS FROM A PREJUDICED FALSIFIER

"There are many signs", this speaker says, "having the appearance of being hopeful that the old 'Mormondom' known in the days of Brigham Young is crumbling and that a new system slightly nearer the Christian ideal is being built up. Many 'Mormons' not of the old school no longer regard Joseph Smith as a prophet with a mission from God, which Joseph Smith claimed, and many do not accept the present heads of the Church as called of God. The present leaders of the Church would not dare to represent themselves as the mouthpiece of God to the membership. Apostasy among the male portion of the membership is growing fast, and the Church would have been bankrupt seven years ago if it had not been for the women and children who alone pay tithes."

The speaker held up to ridicule certain of the "Mormon" pioneers and made fun of what he deemed the superstition of the "Mormon" doctrines. The alleged betrayal of women by "Mormons" was depicted, as were methods which he declared existed early in southern Utah history where the "Mormons" hurled

Gentiles from the cliffs. The audience which listened to these remarks loudly applauded them.

A REPLY TO THE ACCUSATIONS

If these statements were true, my brethren and sisters, there might be some justification for the hope expressed by the minister who uttered them that the bulwarks of the Church are crumbling, that the time is coming, and is not far distant, when it will collapse, and the fond hopes of those who have opposed it from the beginning will be realized. But fortunately for the Church, and unfortunately for those who oppose it, this is not the case.

The implication that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is not a Christian organization is too absurd to require any extended comment. The foundation upon which the Church rests is faith in God the Eternal Father, His Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost, who constitute the God-head. The Church teaches and its members testify that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that by Him the worlds were created, and that through the redemption wrought out because of the atonement which He made, all mankind are redeemed from death, the penalty which was pronounced upon our father Adam because of transgression, and that through obedience to the doctrines which He taught we may be redeemed from personal sin. We bear witness to the world that there is no other name under heaven, nor is there any other means by which man can obtain glory, exaltation and eternal life except through the medium of Christ our Lord.

APOSTASY NOT GROWING

If apostasy is growing fast we are not aware of it, and the careful record which is kept of those who become members of the Church and those who withdraw from it would certainly provide this information were it true. It is true that not all who obey the Gospel and identify themselves with the Church remain steadfast in the faith and it has always been so, but there are fewer in number who go back to the world and its devious paths than in the early history of the Church. A net cast into the sea, the Saviour says, gathers fish of all kinds, and the Church in this dispensation does not differ from the Primitive Church in that respect.

TITHING GREATER THAN EVER BEFORE

If the statement that only women and children pay tithes and but for them the Church would have been bankrupt seven years ago is true, the women and children are entitled to great credit, for it chanced just at the time that this statement was made the tithes paid showed greater returns for the year than ever before in the history of the Church.

ADDED EVIDENCE OF THE PROPHET'S DIVINE CALLING

If it is true, as stated, that the members of the Church no longer regard Joseph Smith as a prophet with a message from God to the people of the world, and that the men who preside over the Church are no longer recognized as the mouthpiece of the Lord to the membership, then indeed are we without hope, for we are immediately reduced to the condition of these critics. The Lord has declared that where there is no revelation and prophecy the people perish.

Never before since the organization of the Church has there been such overwhelming proof of the divine calling of the Prophet Joseph Smith and the inspiration of his successors in office as at the present time, for the past century has not proved him or them to have been wrong, while it has added greatly to the evidence which existed at the time the Church was founded, both from a scriptural and historical point of view, to prove that he was divinely called to do the work which he accomplished.

TWO GREAT EVENTS FORESEEN AND FORETOLD

During His personal ministry but few people accepted Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Redeemer of the world. Notwithstanding the fact that the Jewish people were looking forward to the coming of their Messiah they rejected Christ, and have vainly looked forward for the coming of another since the time of His appearing. Another has not come and will not come until He shall return to reign in power, majesty and dominion upon the earth. Then, and not until then, will Judah fully appreciate the error of his rejection.

Just as definitely as the prophets had foretold the coming of Christ and the work which He was to accomplish, the greatest accomplishment since the creation of man, for it involved the redemption of mankind from the fallen condition into which transgression had plunged them, so definitely did they foretell the coming of another epochal event, second only to the appearance of the Messiah Himself. The time of its accomplishment was at a period referred to as the latter days, a time when spiritual darkness would cover the earth and gross darkness the minds of the people, a time when the laws of the Gospel of Christ would be transgressed, the ordinances of His Church changed, and the everlasting covenant broken.

Concerning this time when these conditions would prevail, the Lord, just prior to His crucifixion, declared to His disciples that a light would break forth among those who sit in darkness, which light would be the fulness of His everlasting Gospel, a light which the people of the world at large would not perceive and from which they would turn because of the precepts of men.

John, the beloved disciple of our Lord, looking forward to that time, tells us that the opening of this greatest of all gospel dis-

pensations, greatest because the Lord has said that in it He will gather all things together in one and consummate His work, would be ushered in by an angel whom he saw flying through the midst of heaven having the everlasting Gospel to preach to them that dwell upon the earth, to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. While the primary purpose of this restoration was to prepare the world for the second coming of the Redeemer and to bring all people, Jew and Gentile, atheist, infidel, and professed Christian, to a recognition of Christ as the Redeemer of the world and submission to His will, there were certain well defined purposes to be accomplished before this is to be consummated.

ISRAEL TO BE GATHERED

Scattered Israel is to be gathered and established in the land given to them to be an everlasting inheritance, in accordance with the promise made by the Lord to Abraham and repeated to his sons Isaac and Jacob. The promise was sealed upon the head of Joseph, the son of Jacob, when Jacob sealed the heirship of that branch upon the head of Ephraim and extended the promise which had already been made to the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills, a promise which is being fulfilled, as witnessed in the coming together of this great congregation, whose genealogy traces direct to Ephraim. Judah is to repossess Palestine, the promised land of his fathers. The mountain of the Lord's house is to be established in the top of the mountains and to be exalted above the hills and many people are to be gathered to it in order that they may be taught the way of the Lord and learn to walk in His paths.

The Prophet Isaiah, speaking of the House of Israel, says:

> And thou shalt be brought down, and shalt speak out of the ground, and thy speech shall be low out of the dust, and thy voice shall be, as of one that hath a familiar spirit, out of the ground, and thy speech shall whisper out of the dust. . . . And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed:
>
> And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.
>
> Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:
>
> Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.

Referring to the same period the Prophet Ezekiel says:

> Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For

Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:

And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.

PROPHECIES FULFILLED

If the events to which the scripture alludes, to which I have referred, have not occurred; if Ephraim is not being gathered to the tops of the mountains where they are being taught the way of the Lord that they may walk in His paths; if the Jews are not beginning to repossess Palestine, the promised land; if the House of Israel has not been brought down, and spoken low out of the dust, with the voice of a familiar spirit; if an angel has not restored the everlasting Gospel to be preached to all nations; if the records of Judah and of Ephraim have not come together for the purpose of uniting the entire Israelitish family—if these things have not occurred, I say, then we must look to the future for their accomplishment, for they are the unchangeable decrees of the Lord, and His word never fails.

The Lord has said that the record which was delivered to Joseph Smith, and which was translated by him and published to the world as the Book of Mormon, was the record of the stick of Ephraim. The Bible is the record of the hand-dealing of the Lord with the House of Judah. The two have been brought together to the confounding of false doctrine, both bearing witness, as they do, to the divine mission of Christ our Lord.

When the keys of the Lesser Priesthood were conferred upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery, and later the Melchizedek Priesthood, under the hands of Peter, James and John, the words of John the Divine were fulfilled, for authority was restored to the earth to preach the Gospel in its fulness and administer the ordinances of the Church.

TESTIMONY AND APPEAL

The restored Church has never resorted to ridicule, abuse or misrepresentation. It has never persecuted any person because of his or her religious belief, nor any person because he had no religious convictions. It is true that its members have been drawn from other denominations, and from among people who were not professors of religion at all. We pray for all men who seek to do good, for it is a part of our creed that everything which is good, or induces men to do good, cometh of God.

We do, however, claim the right to carry the message of the restored Gospel to all men; it is our mission, as it was the mission of the disciples of Christ. "Go ye into all the world," he said to his disciples, "and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

We bear testimony to all people that Joseph Smith was divinely called to the work which he accomplished; that he was not an imposter, but was a chosen vessel of the Lord; that he did receive the plates which contained the record of the Book of Mormon, and translated them by the gift and power of God. We do not expect all people to accept the message which we bear; it would be contrary to prophecy if they did.

We do, however, appeal to those who differ from us to speak the truth, that honest men and women be not led astray by their sophistry and misrepresentations. Time will determine who is right, and we abide the verdict of the future for our vindication.

May the Lord our God keep us all in the path of truth, righteousness, and virtue, I humbly pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE FREE STATE CONFERENCE

Conference in the Free State District, Ireland, was held Sunday, May 15th, at The Hall, 8 Merrion Row, Dublin. There was a very large proportion of members who reside in the District, together with friends and investigators, in attendance, as also Mission President James E. Talmage and Sister May Booth Talmage from Liverpool, District President Benjamin R. Birchall and the two Traveling Elders who have been labouring in the Free State.

The subject of "Mother's Day" was presented by the Sunday School members in the morning session, the program comprising selected poems, recited by representatives of the several classes, and short addresses by visitors. In response to the tributes paid to mothers, Sister Babette Retz made an address of appreciation, stating that mothers in the Church are doing their best to bring up their children in the love of God, and teaching them to walk by the light of the Gospel. President Talmage explained our belief as to the actuality of a mother of our spirits, and then dealt with the continuation of family relationship throughout eternity, provided that such relationship be entered into through the power of the Holy Priesthood in this life. Sister Talmage related the history of "Mother's Day" as a time of annual observance, and portrayed in an impressive way the sacrifice made by her own mother in becoming a member of the Church. She expressed gratitude for the honour paid to mothers on this occasion.

(*Continued on page 332*)

Habit is a cable; we weave a thread of it every day, and at last we cannot break it.—Horace Mann.

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1927

EDITORIAL

MISERABLY DUPED!

ONE MAY FEEL honest pity for another who has been deceived, provided the misrepresentation was in some degree plausible. But when we find one so credulous as to accept what is obviously absurd, ridiculous and nonsensical, our pity takes a different turn. Gullibility invites derision; and the poor cully finds little sympathy as the laughing-stock he has made of himself.

Especially pitiable is the green credulity of men who are entrusted with, or who have taken unto themselves, the responsibility of supplying material for the public Press, and who are prone to put forth as alleged fact even what a child would recognize as nothing more than a fairy story.

What appears to be a colossal hoax has recently been played upon some of the newspapers of this country; and we are treated to the diverting spectacle of certain big if not great journals publishing a tale that reaches the hitherto unscaled heights of absurdity.

The *Sunday News*, London, self-designated as "Formerly Known As Lloyd's Sunday News", seems to have been made the innocent victim of a curious travesty, the topic being that perennial sensation, so dear to the heart and ready to the pen of the fictionist—"Mormonism." The respectable journal named above is deserving of commiseration; for it appears that some base deceiver has played upon it a mean trick, inasmuch as the startling story published in its columns of May 1st purports to have come "From a Special Correspondent" and is superscribed "Utah (Received yesterday)." This of course exonerates the *News* from any suspicion of having originated the story; the superscription forbids the thought that it was made in England. But we are inclined to think that the "Special Correspondent", away off in Utah, may be a person of such distinction as to have enjoyed, if he be not still enjoying, the hospitality of the State in a certain well-equipped and splendidly conducted institution known as the Mental Hospital. As a discoverer of the nonexistent and a crafty inventor of fibs this "Correspondent" exhibits signs of that peculiar strain of genius which is known to be closely allied to insanity. The emotions of such poor creatures must be given expression; but it is a piteous circumstance that one of this unfortunate class should have so cunningly selected

as his victim a reputable London journal. Here is the story, as it appeared in the *Sunday News* of May 1st:

A GREAT OFFENSIVE

Leader of princely tastes and large salary

From a Special Correspondent
Utah (Received yesterday)

Preparations are being completed in Salt Lake City for the greatest Mormon missionary invasion of Europe that has ever been planned. Within the next few months 10,000 chosen Mormons will take train and Atlantic liner, and will sweep Britain and Europe.

No less than 3,000 of them will make for London, and accommodation is already being arranged for them by Mormon agents already in the metropolis. One thousand Mormons will invade Paris, and 6,000 missionaries will spread themselves over Italy, Spain, Germany and the Middle European States, of whom 2,000 are proceeding to Moscow at the direct invitation of the Soviet Government, who are not averse to Mormonism amongst the Bolsheviki.

To lead this great advance of religious soldiers will come one Terahan Moss, a man of 60, with patriarchal appearance and for some years one of the most powerful of the Latter-day Saints in Salt Lake City. He will travel "au prince" to Paris, and accommodation such as a film star would occupy has been reserved for him on one of the largest Atlantic liners.

This patriarch may take up his residence in England and be the spiritual head and adviser of Mormon Europe.

For a long time past the Council of Seven, which is the inner power of the Mormon movement, has contemplated ambitiously a Mormon world, in the event of which the Great Elder would be the spiritual king of the universe.

11 Tons of Propaganda

Missionaries who will not return till victory

The missionaries are bringing over to Europe 11 tons of literature, and among their number are 300 trained preachers who have been studying European languages for three years in the Utah University to enable them to preach in foreign countries.

A plan to found 130 Mormon churches in England is but one of many objects cherished by the Latter-day Saints, and 30 churches will be built in London, with others in Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other big centres. These will be established inside of five years following the invasion, say the Mormon heads.

I understand that the first liner load of Mormons will dock at Cherbourg and Southampton some time in July, and that they will not return to Utah until they have more or less accomplished their purpose.

We affirm officially:

That no preparations have been or are being made for the sending of "10,000 chosen Mormons" to Great Britain.

That no provision has been or is being made for sending "3,000

of them" to London, or for any other apportionment as indicated in the second paragraph of the quoted story.

That this Church has no missionaries in Russia; that no plans have been made for propaganda work in that country, and that the Church has received no invitation from the Soviet Government or any institution in Russia.

That the "one Terahan Moss", falsely represented as "one of the most powerful of the Latter-day Saints in Salt Lake City", is absolutely unknown to the Church by name, by such description as is given in the story, or otherwise. We venture to add the suggestion that if there be a man in Utah named Terahan Moss he may possibly have written from the State institution for the feeble-minded as the "Special Correspondent" in this case.

There is no such organization in the Church as the "Council of Seven, which is the inner power of the Mormon movement."

While we should be glad to see places of worship established by the Latter-day Saints in the British cities named, as also in towns and villages throughout the land, we must regretfully admit that there is no immediate prospect of any such realization.

We state further that no plans have been made for sending more than the ordinary quota of missionaries to Europe during July. The number of such prospective arrivals may possibly reach a dozen or a score for the whole Eastern Hemisphere but we can scarcely hope for more!

In short, we affirm that the entire story, ostensibly sent from Utah and published in the *Sunday News* of May 1st, is nothing more than a figment of some writer's erratic imagination.—J. E. T.

WHAT THE M. I. A. MEANS*

ELDER NEPHI L. MORRIS

PRESIDENT OF THE SALT LAKE STAKE OF ZION

WHAT DOES M. I. A. mean to us? I will tell you what it means. It serves as the Iron Rod of the Book of Mormon, of which young men and young women may take firm hold and thereby pass these snares and pitfalls and land safely into the life of noble, virtuous, home-loving, family-rearing, God-fearing, frugal, industrious manhood and womanhood. M. I. A. provides a chaste field for the social, spiritual, intellectual and physical activities of the youth. It gives an opportunity for young men to discover

*From an address delivered at a special convention of the Mutual Improvement Association, held at the Bishop's Building, Salt Lake City, Utah, on April 3, 1927, just preceding the opening of the Ninety-seventh Annual Conference. The hall was filled with enthusiastic leaders of the M. I. A. from many wards and stakes of Zion.

their abilities and to display or exercise them successfully. Self-discovery is a great thing to a young man.

INSPIRED TO ACHIEVEMENT

I have been told an interesting story by some of my friends, which comes from no less a person than William McAdoo, a member of the Cabinet in the Wilson administration. It appears that when young McAdoo was at college, in Louisville, Kentucky, he found himself on the debating team and confronted with the question, "Resolved that the 'Mormons' should be denied the franchise." For information on the negative side of the question he [with a colleague] was referred to the late President George Q. Cannon, then serving as Congressman. With that fine consideration of youth which is only to be found in a gentleman, President Cannon gave these two students every attention. He supplied the young debaters with an ample fund of reliable information and inspired them with the rightfulness of their side of the question. The result was that McAdoo was triumphant in the debate. The success inspired him with an ambition along the lines of his discovered talent and it was the thing that led him to the study of law, and finally landed him in the Cabinet of the President of the United States during one of the most eventful administrations in our history. Mr. McAdoo attributes his start in life to the kindly assistance rendered him by George Q. Cannon and the inspiration to achievement which came therefrom. What really happened was that young McAdoo was assisted in discovering himself and inspiration was imparted to develop his talents, which, in his case, led to success and unusual distinction.

That is exactly what M. I. A. is doing to thousands of our finest young men, as it has done to thousands during the past half century or more.

WHAT SCOUT TRAINING ACCOMPLISHED

The other evening I sat down at a Scout banquet and listened to the program, as carried out by a group of young fellows whom I recognized as the boys whom I had seen ten years before brought into the Scout troop, just as they were—rough, wild, not even "halter-broken", charged with the dynamic forces of will and body characteristic of adolescence. They were haughty, daring, even challenging, and in some there was an element of possible disrespect and disobedience. After "Scouting" had taken them through the critical period of their lives and led them to M. I. A. and also to the spiritual influence that comes with respectfully holding the Priesthood, they stood erect—polished, strong, possessed of faith in God and in life as God's greatest gift, ready for missions, marriage, and perhaps already under personal consecration to God.

M. I. A. not only gives us such young men but gives them in

turn a field for their activities and splendid service. There are thousands of them in this Church. They are the Church's greatest asset and they are the gift of M. I. A. When I think of our superintendent and his associates and those of other stakes, I am impressed to say that no former civilization, yes, no other gospel dispensation, ever produced the equal of these M. I. A. men of to-day. In the way of broad culture, open-mindedness, honesty, spiritnality, ability and dependability, intelligence, courage, religion and a clean and wholesome young manhood, I doubt that their equal has ever before been seen on the earth.

A THRIVING ORGANIZATION

Brigham Young has been proved a prophet, an inspired leader, in the establishment of the Mutual Improvement Associations of this Church. The organization was launched along purposeful lines, with definite objectives, which have been reached by the youth of the Church; and this great movement is still vital and purposeful, possessed of permanent value. It is as great an asset to the Church to-day as when it was organized in 1875. And, if in 1927 it is of value, why may it not continue to be until 1975, and longer? Thus will its inspiration be vindicated and God be glorified.

That is what M. I. A. means, as I see it. Thank God for it. And may the blessings of God attend those who have its direction and guidance in their hands.

THE FREE STATE CONFERENCE

(*Concluded from page 327*)

At the afternoon gathering President Benjamin R. Birchall presented a report of missionary work done in the District during the past six months, in which he stated that the missionaries had spent 511 hours tracting, made 447 visits to investigators, and 430 visits while not tracting, tracted 14 villages and sections of Dublin, held 84 meetings and 895 gospel conversations, with a total of 4,639 hours work. Literature has been distributed as follows: 9,430 tracts, 148 books and pamphlets, and 8 copies of the Book of Mormon. President Birchall commented on the unity of the members and paid compliment to this pleasing condition. The speaker then presented statistical data as to the prevalence of secular business done on the Sabbath, which practice, he said, is a desecration of the holy day. He urged all Latter-day Saints to beware lest they fall into such violation of the law of God. He then called attention to the fact that the day of the conference was the 98th anniversary of the restoration of the Aaronic Priesthood to the earth in this dispensation, and admonished all bearers of the Priesthood to magnify their callings.

Elder Lyman T. Nielsen related many interesting incidents in the life of the Prophet Joseph Smith, whose mission, he affirmed, was divine. The Mission President emphasized the fact that the restoration of the Priesthood was real and literal. He stated that there is a wide difference between the mere form and the actual power of godliness, and pointed out that the Priesthood alone could make the Church more than a form.

In the afternoon service President Talmage made reference to the current reports appearing in the Press dealing with this Church, most of them fair, and emphasized the sacred rights of man in matters of religion and conscience. Elder Rondo H. Robinson spoke concerning the outpouring of the Spirit of God on all men in these latter days, and bore testimony to the actuality of the restoration of the Gospel.

At the evening meeting the Mission President dealt with the Parable of the Talents, dwelling in a forceful way upon the scripture: "For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath." The speaker concluded his remarks by inviting all to investigate the principles of the restored Gospel, and by invoking divine guidance upon honest investigators in their search for truth. Vocal duets were given by Sisters Gertrude Horlacher and Laura Dimler.

On Sunday morning, preceding the first conference service, a missionary meeting was held, in which reports were made and timely advice was given. During the day special meetings convened in connection with the work of the auxiliaries. A gathering of Mutual Improvement Association officers, and another of the Relief Society, were conducted by Sister Talmage; and the Mission President met with the local Priesthood and addressed the brethren on the importance and sanctity of their calling.

RONDO H. ROBINSON, District Clerk

OUR STATUS in the hereafter will be found to be primarily dependent upon the merits or demerits of our life here; and beyond as in this world ability to advance will be varied and graded. Wilful neglect here may forfeit both ability and opportunity there. Hence, though in the mercy of God the Gospel is being preached in the spirit world, and vicarious administration of the essential and saving ordinances is provided for, to the end that the repentant dead "might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit" (1 Peter 4:6), disembodied spirits may be incapacitated and ineligible even for repentance, and for the benefits of baptism administered in their behalf upon earth, until they shall have learned in the spirit world the primary lessons that they ignored or rejected while in the flesh.—J. E. T.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Transfers: Elder Richard L. Evans has been transferred from the Norwich District to the Liverpool Office on special assignment. Elder Lyman T. Nielsen has been transferred from the Free State to the Nottingham District; Elder Rondo H. Robinson has been transferred from the Free State to the Manchester District.

Releases and Departures: Elder J. Forest Wood, recently honourably released as President of the Birmingham District, sailed from Cherbourg on May 19th, aboard the *Montroyal*. Elder William G. Bennett, who has laboured in the Liverpool and Norwich Districts, has also been honourably released and departed on the same vessel. Both were bound for their homes in Canada.

Branch Conferences: Of the Cirencester Branch, Bristol District, on May 8th. Doctrinal discourses pertaining to the theme, "Seership and Prophecy", were outstanding features of the morning gathering. President Carl E. Brown and Elders Albert B. Carr and Francis A. Rainsdon participated in the services of the day.

Of the Oldham Branch, Manchester District, on May 8th. "Prayer" was the theme presented in a program by the Sunday School classes in the morning meeting. "Mother's Day" and "The Purpose of Mortal Life" were the subjects of addresses by President Landell S. Merrill and Elders J. Rulon Doxey and F. Donald Merrill. A good report of the conference was published in the *Oldham Chronicle* of May 14th.

Of the Burnley Branch, Liverpool District, on May 8th. A "Mother's Day" program was presented in the afternoon gathering. Discourses appropriate to the day were given by President David M. Kennedy and Elders Zenas W. Bennett, Frank L. Koons and Edward M. Bunker. An audience numbering seventy-six enjoyed the day's proceedings. Epitomized accounts of the conference appeared in the *Burnley News* and the *Burnley Examiner*, issues of May 11th and May 14th respectively.

Of the Blackburn Branch, Liverpool District, on May 15th. President David M. Kennedy and Elders Kenneth A. Nielson, Moroni B. Harrison, William F. Forsey and Robert M. Adams delivered gospel discourses. The *Northern Daily Telegraph* gave favourable mention of the conference in its issue of May 16th.

Of the Manchester Branch, on May 15th. "The Aaronic Priesthood Restored" was the theme of the day. Sunday School students in well prepared recitations recounted the historical facts connected with the restoration of the Priesthood in this dispensation, and the significance of this bestowal of authority

was the subject of discourses by President Landell S. Merrill and Elders N. Glenn Stanford and F. Donald Merrill.

Of the Skelton Branch, Newcastle District, on May 15th. By dialogue recitations members of the Sunday School presented an instructive and interesting program in the opening session; President Orson H. Berrett and Elders A. Vincen McKay, Howard A. Stokes and Wayne L. Shaw were the speakers.

Of the West Hartlepool Branch, Newcastle District, on May 8th. Two Themes, "The Second Coming of Christ" and "Mother" were successfully developed in the morning and evening sessions. President Orson H. Berrett and Elders A. Vincen McKay, Howard A. Stokes and Wayne L. Shaw took part.

Doings in the Districts: *Leeds*—Representatives from the several branches of the District assembled in Bradford on May 7th at a convention of officers and teachers. Branch Presidents spoke appreciatively of the work accomplished in the Priesthood and auxiliary organizations during the past month, and proposed plans for increased activity within the respective branch organizations.

Norwich—With appropriate exercises consisting of songs, poems and discourses, "Mother's Day" was commemorated in this District. At Lowestoft a highly successful program was conducted, the mothers rendering all parts on the program. Two Sunday School girls presented a carnation to each mother present. At Norwich the outstanding feature of the program was a song expressive of a child's love for mother rendered by a large group of Sunday School children.

Nottingham—Five persons were baptized by Elder George S. Wright at a service held at Arnold, Nottinghamshire, on May 5th, after which they were confirmed by President Marvin P. Thain and Elders Lee W. Lund, J. William Funk, Vilace L. Radmall and Rulon W. Stevenson. An address on the significance of the initiatory ordinances was delivered by Elder Lund.

Sheffield—The traveling missionaries met in their monthly report meeting in Barnsley on April 30th. Marked success in missionary activities, particularly in street meetings, was reported. Eight of the nine Elders of the District are labouring in country fields, the local Priesthood attending to the affairs of the organized branches. A Union meeting was held in the Arcade Hall, Barnsley, on April 30th, after which the Barnsley Branch gave a social entertainment. A social given under Sunday School auspices held at Barnsley was enjoyed by a goodly gathering of Latter-day Saints and their friends on May 13th. Prizes were awarded to Sunday School children who had excelled in Sunday School work during the year. The Relief Society of the Doncaster Branch held a bazaar in Doncaster on May 11th. Preceding the sale of work an entertainment consisting principally of short sketches was given by members of the Society.

TRUTH THE IMMORTAL

SPEAK TRUTH, O oracle, whate'er thy tongue!
Paint Truth, O limner of earth, sea and sky!
Sing Truth, O poet, lift thy loftiest song!
Sound Truth, O harp and heart of melody.

'Tis this alone gives fame immortal youth.
Where truth is wanting, all else pleads in vain.
No lie can live. Life's lifeblood is the Truth;
Through time and all eternity 'twill reign.

Strewn in life's stormy strand with wrecks of things
That boldly rode on glory's billowy way—
A false fame, borne aloft on flattery's wings!
A bird of night that could not fly by day!

The truly great grow greater with the years,
Brighter and brighter as the ages wane.
They sow to Truth; the hundred fold appears,
And history garners home the golden grain.

Truth, 'tis a fountain springing from the heart;
There Shakespeare lingered, and there Homer laved.
Truth, 'tis in nature; uttered, 'tis in art.
Truth, the bright bond 'twixt Saviour and the saved.

Creeds, causes, systems, sacred and profane,
True mixed with false, adored by minds sincere—
Think not 'tis error buoys them o'er the main;
Truth is their life, their star, though wide they steer.

Nor less thy life and light, O child of clay!
The spirit spark, intelligence divine,
Lamp of the soul, and fountain of the day,
The power whereby all splendours soar and shine.

Who'er thou art, sage, songster, brave or bard!
Contend for Truth, and make her cause thine own,
Sure her promise, sovereign her reward;
Exalting Truth, thou'lt share her shining throne.

ORSON F. WHITNEY

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LIVERPOOL

FOR SALE IN ALL THE DISTRICTS OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN